



NEWS RELEASE

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STATE WATER BOARD AND I-BANK BONDS SAVE STATE \$10 MILLION

Sacramento, CA – Today the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (I-Bank) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) announced the closing of a \$68.9 million sale of tax-exempt bonds for the benefit of the State Water Board's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program. The bonds received the highest AAA rating by all three major ratings agencies, based on sound program management, and were snapped up by investors in a matter of hours. Proceeds will be used to refinance (or "refund") prior bonds issued by the I-Bank in 2002 for the CWSRF program.

The 2002 bonds, also AAA-rated, allowed the State Water Board to increase the volume of low-cost financing available to local governments for water infrastructure projects. The 2012 bonds, sold at current low interest rates, realize over \$10 million of net present value savings. Through the refunding process, bond documents were also modernized and streamlined allowing the CWSRF program to quickly and efficiently access the bond market in the future.

"These cost savings will increase the capacity of the CWSRF program," said State Water Board Executive Director, Thomas Howard, "in turn enabling more funds to be loaned for essential water quality projects throughout the State." "The I-Bank is proud to partner with the Water Board on the refunding bonds which will ultimately result in more environmentally sustainable and job-producing local public infrastructure projects," said I-Bank Executive Director, Stan Hazelroth.

The State Water Board is the State entity charged with protecting and sustaining California's waters resources for future generations and implementing the CWSRF program. The CWSRF program provides affordable financing primarily for construction of publicly-owned wastewater infrastructure and addressing non-point sources of pollution. The CWSRF program has protected and promoted the health, safety, and welfare of Californians since 1989. Every project financed by the CWSRF program is directly related to improving water quality or public health. More information about the CWSRF program is available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/.

The I-Bank is the State of California's only general purpose financing authority and has broad statutory powers to issue revenue bonds, make loans and provide credit enhancements for a wide variety of public infrastructure and economic development projects throughout the State that promote a healthy climate for jobs, contribute to a strong economy and improve the quality of life in California communities. More information about the I-Bank is available at <http://ibank.ca.gov>.

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